



## Taxonomy of *Toumeyella lomagundiae* Hall and *T. obunca* De Lotto, and their transfer to *Hallicoccus* gen. nov. (Hemiptera: Coccoidea: Coccidae)

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### Abstract

Two African soft scale insects, *Toumeyella lomagundiae* Hall and *T. obunca* De Lotto, are transferred to *Hallicoccus* gen. nov. The adult females of both species are redescribed, and the first-instar nymph of *T. lomagundiae* is described. A revised taxonomic key to separate the adult females is provided. The affinity of *Hallicoccus* gen. nov. with the genus *Toumeyella* Cockerell is briefly discussed.

**Key words:** Africa, Coccidae, keys, new genus scale insect, taxonomy

### Résumé

Deux espèces des cochenilles africains, *Toumeyella lomagundiae* Hall et *T. obunca* De Lotto sont transférés au nouveau genre *Hallicoccus* gen. nov. Les femelles adultes des les deux espèces et la larve du premier stade des *T. lomagundiae* sont redécrites (ou décrites) et illustrées. Une clé dichotomique est proposée pour les femelles. L'affinité du genre *Hallicoccus* dans du genre *Toumeyella* Cockerell, est discutée.

### Introduction

The genus *Toumeyella* Cockerell, 1895, currently contains 18 species (Ben-Dov *et al* 2006), of which 16 occur in the New World and 2 in Africa. Kondo & Williams (2002) indicated that the African species are not congeneric with the type species, *T. mirabilis* (Cockerell), based on a morphological study of the adult females and first-instar nymphs.

*Toumeyella* is well represented in the Nearctic Region (North America and northern Mexico) with 12 described species, but it is also known from the Neotropical region, with 2 species described from Brazil and 1 species from Cuba (Ben-Dov *et al*, 2006; Heidel and Köhler, 1979; Hempel 1929, 1932; Kondo & Williams, 2002, 2003, 2004). Hall (1935), when describing *T. lomagundiae*, commented as follows: “It [*T. lomagundiae*] has very distinctive characteristics and appears to be referable to the genus *Toumeyella*, Ckll., where it has been placed provisionally”, suggesting that the species might not be congeneric with the New World *Toumeyella*. Later, De Lotto (1966) added a second African species, *T. obunca*, recognizing its close affinities with *T. lomagundiae*, and stated that it was uncertain whether the two African species were actually congeneric with the type of *Toumeyella*, *Lecanium mirabile* Cockerell. As noted by De Lotto (1966), the two African species are closely related to each other, but have little in common with the New World species; thus a new genus *Hallicoccus* is erected here to accommodate them.